GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:145
ANSWERED ON:29.10.2008
ILLEGAL TRADING OF NATIVE BIRDS
Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal trade of the native species of birds has come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so,the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to amend the existing laws relating to wildlife to prevent illegal trading of the native birds;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps taken or being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S.REGUPATHY)

(a),(b),(c), (d) & (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b), (c), (d) & (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 145 REGARDING `ILLEGAL TRADING OF NATIVE BIRDS` BY SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA DUE FOR REPLY ON 29-10-2008.

(a),(b) Stray cases of illegal trade of native species of birds have been reported by the State/ UT Governments.Such cases involved mostly birds such as peafowl,Edible nest swiftlet,Jungle fowl,etc used in pet trade,feather collection,meat etc.

(c),(d) The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 has stringent provisions against poaching, hunting and illegal trade of wild animals including native birds. However, to regulate international trade in wildlife and its derivatives, the Central Government proposes to introduce a Chapter in the Wildlife (Protection) Act,1972 related to Convention on Endangered Species in Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

(e) Various steps taken by the Central Government to strengthen wildlife conservation and prevent illegal trade of native birds are as below:

i. Threatened species of wildlife including birds are included in the Schedules of the Wildlife (Protection),Act,1972,thereby according them the highest degree of protection,
ii. The Wildlife (Protection) Act has been amended from time to time and made more stringent against wildlife related offences,
iii. A network of Protected Areas has been established to conserve wildlife and their habitats,
iv. Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has been set up to check illegal trade in wildlife and its products.
v. The State Governments have been requested to strengthen the field formations and intensify patrolling in and around the Protected Areas,
vi. Financial and technical assistance is extended to the State/UT Governments under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes for providing better protection and conservation of wildlife,including birds.